

Letter written by
William Stiles 1863
18th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

original in Chester Bible

(Imp. Car Impresario See Jan 16) 63

Dear Brother & Sister

With pleasure I set down to write a few lines to you to let you know how and where I am with my health at this present time is good hoping also that when these lines comes to hand they may find you all in the very best of health since I last wrote it you or heard from you I have been through a very bad cold as I have any degree of going through I have been looking for a letter from you for a long time but have checked in vain yet I still live in hopes of hearing from you some time after while I shall give you a small sketch of the battle of Stone River yet it is impossible for a private or Captain's order to give a correct idea of the battle unless it to say that the battle lasted five days and a good part of that time it was a continual roar of cannon and musketry we had a hundred Cannons on our side and the most of them were used and done their

William's address }
158. Front St. }
Columbus Oh }
par note in Balle

were well nearly every shot told
the deathly late to the rebels although
they were driven and fought like slogs
the fight commenced on the 2nd & lasted
to the night of the 3rd at which time
our brave soldiers made a charge on
them at night in the hope from their
entrenchments and so on. ^{17th} ^{17th} ^{17th}
more was estimated at 10 thousand
there not less than 20 thousand in killed
wounded and missing on both sides
our Regt. lost killed wounded and missing 17th
Officers and all. I got a slight wound in
I am all for all only. George is well
and hearty and is quiet most of the time
as well as a great many others, all would
like to see their folks again. Will the gov
or, but I think we could stop from one to